



Jimmy Carter Library & Museum **News Release**

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Diplomat Donates Personal Papers to the Jimmy Carter Library

Ambassador John Gunther Dean's Papers & Oral History Chronicle the Cold War

Atlanta, GA.- Ambassador John Gunther Dean has donated his personal papers and oral history recording to the Jimmy Carter Library. Dean served as U.S. Ambassador to Cambodia, Denmark, Lebanon, Thailand and India during a Foreign Service career that stretched from 1956 to 1989. The collection documents his role in some of the most important diplomatic events of the Cold War, including the Vietnam War, the Paris Peace Talks, an attempted coup in Laos and the final year of American diplomatic presence in Cambodia.

"This is one of the best collections of personal papers on diplomacy I seen in my twenty-five years as a Presidential library archivist," Deputy Director Robert Bohanan said.

The papers describe Dean's role in communications between the Carter White House and the PLO, as well as the 1980 attempt on Dean's life while he was ambassador to Lebanon. In addition, the materials provide insight into nuclear non-proliferation in South Asia and Dean's work with India's Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

"The Library has begun processing the Dean papers and will open the pre-1977 portion this fall," according to Bohanan. "Ambassador Dean's oral history is already available to researchers, with the Lebanon section of particular interest to those following events in the Near East," Bohanan added. The oral history, which was recorded by the Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training, covers the period 1926 thru 1988 and is available in both CD-ROM and written text.

Online access to the Dean Papers finding aid will be provided through the National Archives and Records Administration's Archival Research Catalog (ARC) at http://archives.gov/research_room/arc/index.html.